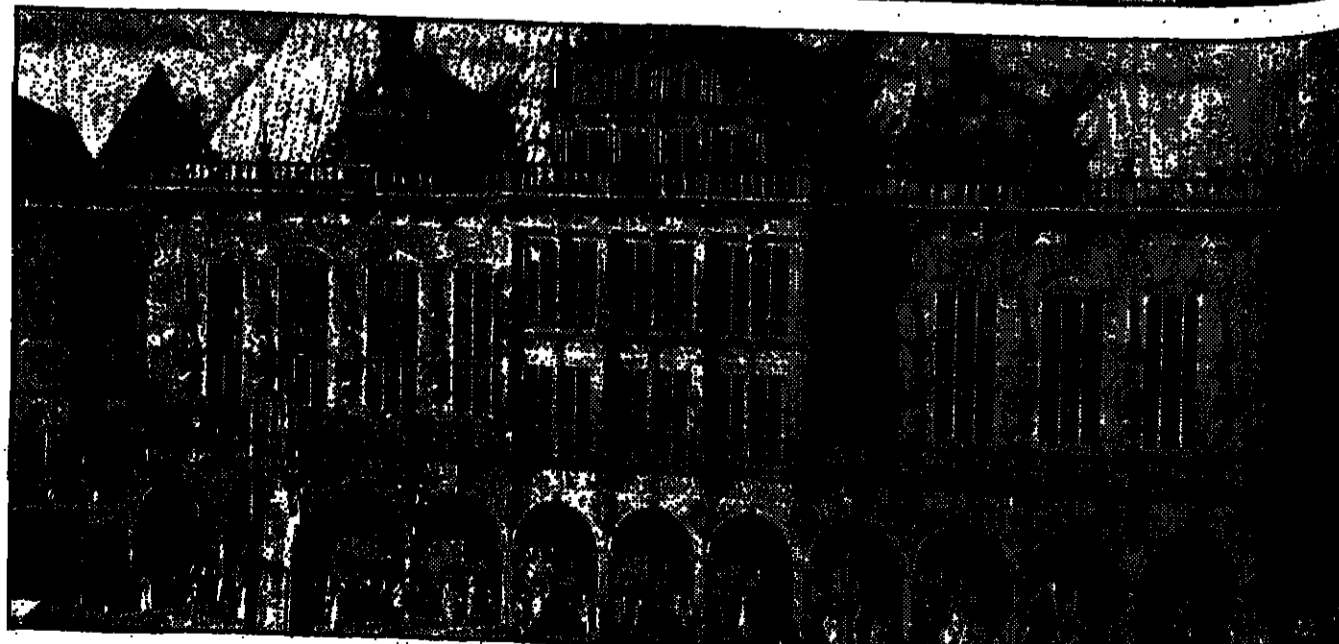


Germany has innumerable art treasures and historical monuments, from which the art lover will derive endless pleasure.



You can obtain more information about holidays in the Federal Republic of Germany and Berlin (West) from our new brochure.

German National Tourist Board
69 Beethovenstrasse, D-8000 Frankfurt a.M.

كازينو فرانكفورت

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 10 April 1977
Sixteenth Year - No. 782 - By air

C 20725 C

President Sadat on a working visit to Bonn



Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, left, and President Walter Scheel arriving at Scheel's residence. President Sadat was in Bonn on 31 March on the first stop of a week-long tour which took him to Bonn, Paris and Washington (Photos: dpa)



President Sadat's 31 March visit to Bonn was a working visit without the red carpet treatment. It was almost a year to the day since the Egyptian leader paid Bonn his first official visit.

Egypt's relations with the West have steadily improved since President Sadat ousted his predecessor's pro-Soviet advisers in May 1971.

Yet Egypt's finest hour when, in the wake of the October 1973 Yom Kippur War, President Sadat was a principal intermediary in the Middle East conflict and grew increasingly important in Western eyes, is fast receding into the dim and distant past. Does the West really need President Sadat any longer?

This query is made without the slightest intention of being cynical. In foreign affairs diplomatic routine is frequently at loggerheads with common sense.

Since the Kissinger era European di-

plomats have grown accustomed to taking President Sadat seriously as an opposite number, but the Egyptian leader will no longer be able to give a policy of gradual improvements in the Middle East situation that extra nudge needed for it to gain general acceptance.

no doubt serve to boost his personal prestige, but this does not necessarily mean that the West should try to ensure that the Egyptian leader is chosen for the part.

Configurations are quick to change in the Middle East. Only a few weeks ago Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher harboured hopes of a change of heart on the Palestinians' part, expressly mentioning the fact to Arab diplomats.

The tensely-awaited conference of the Palestinian National Council, which ended in Cairo on 20 March, dashed such hopes with a vengeance. The PLO seems determined to fight on until final victory.

The Egyptian government has since intimated in no uncertain terms that it does not consider itself the Palestinians' wet-nurse. At present President Sadat is hardly in a position to bring much political pressure to bear on the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in which extremists have the upper hand.

So at the moment the Egyptian leader hardly seems shortlisted for the role of intermediary in further contacts with the Palestinians. But Egypt nonetheless remains a focal point of Western diplomats in the Middle East for two other reasons.

For years to come the industrialised countries will rely on substantial oil imports from the Arab world, particularly Saudi Arabia.

No one in Europe knows much about Saudi Arabia, but Arab politicians appreciate how potentially unstable the kingdom is. Were Anwar Sadat, the level-headed statesman, to be replaced in Cairo by a man in Colonel Gaddafi's mould, the Saudi throne would be in

jeopardy, and so would the sum total of oil supplies to the West.

So this country would do well to lend the Egyptian economy generous support, and President Sadat remains an important political partner from Bonn's point of view too.

In January Egypt's pro-Moscow Communists tried to oust him by means of a mass uprising. Cairo's experiments in multi-party democracy were to be superseded by a Marxist dictatorship along East European lines.

Fortunately the coup failed and President Sadat is now firmly back in control.

Six years ago he singlehandedly cast off the trammels of the late President Nasser's power apparatus, entirely with-

out outside assistance and by means of a political tour de force lasting several years.

For some time this turn of events proved difficult to anticipate even in Cairo itself. Musa Sabri, an Egyptian journalist who is one of the President's close associates, recently edited a volume of important source documents that shed light on the way in which President Sadat accomplished this feat.

Yet even without going into the finer details it is appreciated in the West that President Sadat is in favour of parliamentary freedom.

In recent years Western Europe has done much to nurture the tender shoots of democracy in countries such as Greece, Portugal and Spain. The fate of democracy in Egypt cannot be immaterial to Europe either.

The process of democratisation in Egypt may not measure up to much by European yardsticks but open criticism can now be levelled in the Egyptian parliament at Ministers, the Premier and even the head of State, and that is saying something.

Not for more than a quarter of a century has there been so much freedom in the country.

President Sadat is a man who can take, and indeed relishes, a frank exchange of views. Recent meetings between the Bonn and Cairo Foreign Ministers were marked by too many trite phrases. There was too much resounding verbiage and too little meat.

President Sadat's visit to Bonn will have represented a welcome opportunity of continuing where he and Helmut Schmidt left off a year ago.

The Middle East will be back on the foreign affairs agenda this year as ever, not only in Cairo, but also in Washington, Moscow and Bonn. Harald Voicke

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 March 1977)

IN THIS ISSUE

EUROPE	Page 2
Challenge to Parliamentary system a major item at Anglo-German talks	
HOME AFFAIRS	Page 4
CDU takes over the SPD stronghold of Frankfurt	
ECONOMICS	Page 6
New alignment of parties forecast within the Snake	
INSURANCE	Page 8
Complaints against insurance firms bring call for an ombudsman	
LITERATURE	Page 10
Till Eulenspiegel not just a harmless joker, says researcher	
MEDICINE	Page 13
High blood pressure, the killer with few symptoms	



US State Secretary Vance in Bonn

US Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, left, pictured during talks in Bonn with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, centre, and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on the outcome of the latest SALT II negotiations between the US and the Soviet Union over strategic arms curbs. Vance was on a tour of the main West European capitals.

■ INSURANCE

Complaints against insurance firms bring call for an ombudsman

Fifty thousand million deutschmarks a year ring through the cash registers and flutter serenely through to the bank accounts of private insurance companies.

Last year thirty million claims were handled and 20,000 complaints were lodged with the government agency in Berlin that functions as a court of appeal.

This agency normally only hits the headlines when companies apply for an increase in premiums for compulsory policies, such as third-party cover for motor vehicles.

Only one in four of the 20,000 complaints was upheld by the Berlin agency. In motor insurance, for instance, proceedings are instituted in only one per cent of cases. In other insurance sectors litigation is even more infrequent.

These are statistics the insurance companies produce year after year in order to substantiate their claim that relations between companies and policy-holders are all sweetness and light.

But this is only half the story. It neatly begs the issue of dissatisfied policy-holders who are simple not sure of their legal position and throw in the towel rather than take the company to court; they do so because of the risk of crippling legal costs.

What is more, claimants often settle out of court, making do with a bird in the hand even though they may be entitled to two in the bush.

Insurance companies' relations with their clients are doubtless no better or no worse than in other trades, professions or businesses, but they are not as untroubled as the statistics customarily quoted might appear to indicate.

For the layman insurance is unusually complicated because it provides a service that is invisible. That is why there has been much public discussion of late about improving consumer safeguards in the insurance sector.

As a general rule public debates of this kind culminate in a demand for the establishment of fresh committees, commissions or bodies with whom complaints may be lodged and who will, it is hoped, perform a better service than their predecessors.

So it came as no surprise to learn that the latest idea is the appointment of an insurance ombudsman, an impartial official whose job it would be to follow up complaints, suggest solutions to short-comings and generally provide advice.

Holland and Switzerland already have insurance ombudsmen.

Before going into the pros and cons it is worth noting the complaint facilities that insurance policy-holders already have at their disposal.

First, complaints may be lodged with the company itself. It goes without saying that if you are dissatisfied with the treatment you have received your first letter of complaint is going to be sent to the insurance company's head office.

If the complaint is dealt with by the same assessor as beforehand, the likelihood of a more favourable settlement is, of course, slender, which is why a number of companies have set up complaints departments of their own — undoubtedly a good idea.

The insurance agent's influence ought

not to be underrated either. If the client so wishes he can intervene and will often be able to bring about a more satisfactory solution. Successful, leading agents can frequently work wonders.

Viewed in this light there is obviously a difference between one agent and another. It is by no means necessarily six of one and half a dozen of the other.

In a number of sectors the terms of the policy expressly provide for certain bones of contention being submitted to independent tribunals.

In a dispute concerning indemnification in respect of an accident claim appeals may be submitted to a medical panel, for instance.

As for the usual householder's policy, the claimant may also apply to an independent tribunal to assess the damages covered by the terms of the policy.

The various insurance sectors also have national bodies and organisations. They are not entitled to impose a settlement when a dispute between company and policy-holder arises, but they can and do mediate.

Since associations of this kind are keen to maintain their members' reputations for fair trading they will usually act on claims that are of general interest.

In recent years the number of complaints lodged with the government agency in Berlin has increased by leaps and bounds — probably because an increasing number of people are aware of its existence.

It is not, however, a court of appeal in the sense that it is entitled to impose a

settlement. Often it will reply to the effect that it cannot be of assistance and the policy-holder will have to take his case to court.

Yet a letter of complaint to Berlin is always a good idea. The agency acts in a supervisory capacity to the insurance industry as a whole and companies are none too keen on being reported to Berlin more often than can be helped.

To some extent complaints rebound on the Berlin agency itself, which is responsible for terms of contract that are considered either incomprehensible or unfair.

The terms of policies are submitted to Berlin for approval, so the agency may find itself at the receiving end of complaints that a condition or turn of phrase it has deemed satisfactory makes no sense or is unfair to the policy-holder. So there clearly are occasions when even the Berlin agency, which may reasonably be considered to be on the consumer's side, feels overtaxed and would prefer to refer complaints to independent arbitration.

If the worst comes to the worst, claimants have no option but to take their cases to court, but there are good reasons why many prefer not to do so. Litigation can cost a small fortune, and although you can take out insurance cover against the cost of court cases, cases of this kind are not covered except when the point at issue is a straightforward claim for damages.

What is more, few members of the legal profession can lay claim to a tho-

rough grounding in the more out-of-the-ordinary forms of insurance business, and those there are usually work for the insurance companies themselves.

Besides, both companies and their industrial organisations employ legal staff, which means that they are generally at an advantage over the other side when cases come up before the courts.

Mind you, consumer associations have increasingly concerned themselves with insurance matters of late. They too provide referral services.

Then too, there are the media. An increasing number of policy-holders write to their local newspaper or to the broadcasting authorities in anticipation of assistance.

Frequently this assistance takes the form of information and the recommendation to address a complaint to the competent body. People are often unaware of the opportunities that are ready open to them.

So is there any point in appointing an ombudsman as yet another institution for handling complaints? Probably not. He would just be yet another link in the chain without affording substantial relief.

Policy-holders would merely be even more confused than they already are. What is more, ombudsmen cost money and are as liable to festoon themselves with red tape as anyone else in a similar position.

If an ombudsman is to be appointed, he ought surely to amalgamate the existing facilities. He should exclusively service the sector extending from company complaints departments at one end to litigation at the other.

He would, however, definitely need to be both independent and impartial and to enjoy the confidence of all concerned. Otherwise his appointment would be a waste of time.

Arno Surminski
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 March 1977)

Business as usual is very much the motto of Frau Dr Inge Lore Bähre, who has headed the government's watchdog agency supervising the activities of the banking profession since 1 October 1975.

From her desk on Reichspietshufer, Berlin, she is keen to emphasise continually as the byword of her agency's activities. In her inaugural address she stated that laxity would not be condoned, but she is at pains to note that the phrase she used had in fact been borrowed from one of her predecessors.

On closer acquaintance there can be little doubt that she is the right person for the job. She is a chain smoker, but conveys the impression of self-assurance and imperturbability.

She is unmoved by the suggestion that as a woman she tends to be particularly strict. Stressing continuity she points out that she has been with the agency ever since it was established in 1962.

As vice-president since 1971 and president since 1975 she has never once been accused of being "just like a woman" in the way she goes about her work.

Frau Bähre has been responsible for surveillance of the activities of overseas investment funds. Out of a total of 200 funds applying for permission to operate in the Federal Republic she has given only 35 the go-ahead.

She also testified to pluck and foresight in her handling of a spectacular bank crash resulting in the cessation of activities by the Pfalz-Kreditbank.

Of late she has paid greater attention to the activities of public-sector institutions such as local authority savings

Inge Lore Bähre heads watchdog agency for banks



(Photo: dpa)

banks. Directors have been caught selling stocks and shares illegally abroad, fined by the tax authorities and subsequently banned from the banking profession by Frau Bähre.

Frau Bähre is a pains to emphasise that such drastic action is seldom required and that a career ban is only imposed after due consideration in each and every case.

Inge Lore Bähre, who was born in Insterburg, East Prussia, in 1920, does not

approve of differences in management selection procedures between private and public-sector banking.

But when it comes to senior management appointments by a Landesbank or savings bank her Berlin watchdog agency is only consulted once the politicians have had their say.

Candidates are vetted and nominated by state and local authority governments or officials and then referred to Berlin for consideration of the nominee's suitability as a banker.

Frau Bähre is unhappy with this state of affairs. Improvements could well be effected here and there, she feels. Supervisory boards of Landesbanken and savings banks are for the most part political appointees. She wishes they would demonstrate a greater sense of responsibility in management appointments.

Appointments in this sector are frequently made with party-political parlor in mind. This is not the yardstick by which a banker should be measured and Frau Bähre wishes her agency were not handed the can when political nominees do not measure up to the requirements of the position.

Inge Lore Bähre is confident that peace and quiet will return to the banking world before long. "I am not a clairvoyant, mind you," she adds.

Should it do so, much of the credit will be due to her. Frau Bähre feels that minimum reserve requirements, as they now stand, are satisfactory, as are the opportunities of intervention placed at her agency's disposal by recent legislation.

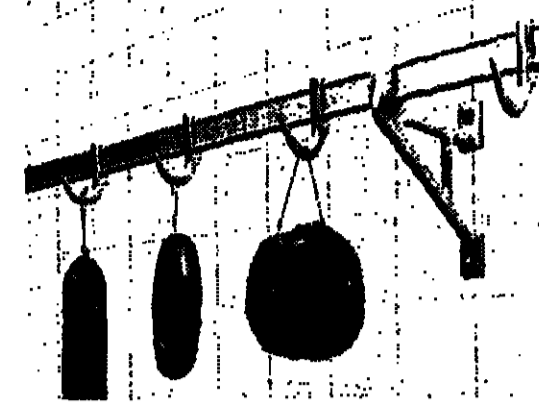
She has been associated with banking in one form or another all her working

Continued on page 13

HUPFER

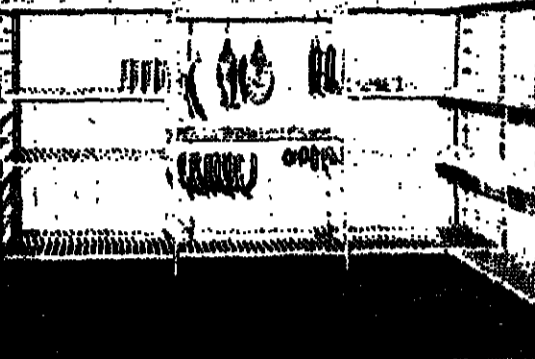
Meat and Sausage Stands

In eloxated aluminium, choice of 200 kgs. or 400 kgs. capacity, available complete with stands, rails, sliding hooks, and brackets.



HUPFER

cold-storage-chamber-shelf made of aluminium eloxated or chrome-nickel steel 18/8



A shelving system up to manufacture of standardised units, with grids or shelves for insertion or will for insertion or will.

simple to erect and dismantle. Readily sited in corners too.

Grids or shelves may be inserted at intervals of 15 cm.

Capacity: 100 kgs. per insert.

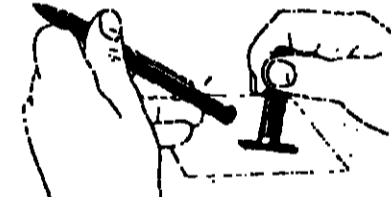
HUPFER · Metallwerk

P.O. Box 3626, D-4400 Münster, West Germany

Telephone: (0251) 6 02 22, Telex: 8 92 539 humue d

It Writes and Stamps the Name and Address of the Writer!

Can a Gift Pen be more personalised than that?



The new GOLDRING Excellent retractable ballpoint pen has a stamp with a permanently inked stamp pad hidden away in its barrel. Through a few easy movements — pull off the cap, screw in stamp and stamp — you have the personal touch to letters, envelopes, etc. Just the thing for travel, business and private correspondence.

A practical, handy and unusual item to own or to present — to friends, colleagues, good customers. Size of stamp: 35 x 10 mm. Pen takes standard full-size refills available on the market. Prices include a 3-line stamp of your choice.

Six attractive models — chromed metal cap, all chromed, gold plated cap, gold filled cap, all gold filled and all anodized in gold colour — to choose from. A hot item for the stationery and advertising trade.

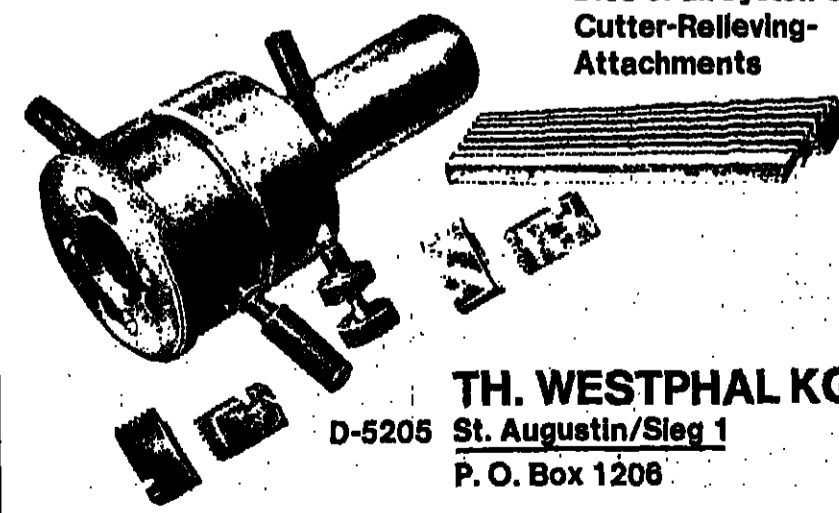
Detailed offer and samples on request.

Goldring

GOLDRING, Ludwig Schieß
P. O. Box 1226
D-758 BUEHL - GERMANY

Dieheads with dies and with chasers

Dies of all systems Cutter-Relieving-Attachments



TH. WESTPHAL KG

D-5205 St. Augustin/Sieg 1

P. O. Box 1208

BANDMAßE
- Bandmaße
STEEL TAPE MEASURES · CINTAS MÉTRICAS

Ernst Rosenbach · 5880 Lüdenscheid 8 · P.O. Box 81 28
Fed. Republic of Germany Phone: (0235) 5163 Telex: 826757

JOKU

Josef Kühnel
Messwerkzeuge
Rosshaupten
near Füssen / Allgäu

First class thickness gauges, valve setting gauges, spoke gauges, screw thread gauges

Handcrafted Antique Styled Silver

600 Models made out of 835/Silver by:
Christoph Widmann, D-7530 Pforzheim
P.O. Box 2027, W. Germany, Tel. 07231-4 35 05

Japan Co Ltd

OUR WORLD

Children's villages offer the abandoned a new family



School holidays are just about to begin in Worpsswede, near Bremen. Children at the SOS children's village are looking forward to a rest from the trials and tribulations of learning.

In a way the holidays will also make life easier for the matrons who each look after a "family" of children. During term time children of various ages can be home from school at any time between half past eleven and two, clamouring for lunch and parched with thirst.

During the holidays Matron Christiane Tetzlaff of House No. 6 can be reasonably sure that her children will turn up at regular hours for nourishment.

Her children are Lars, aged eight, Frank, aged twelve, Rita, aged thirteen, and Norbert, aged fourteen. In pleasurable anticipation of the Easter holidays they have just finished lunch and are working out how they plan to spend the afternoon.

Christiane Tetzlaff, betraying not the slightest sign of nerves, invites the visitors into the peace and quiet of her own comfortable room with its view of a garden full of the harbinger of spring.

"You need good nerves - the best - to make the grade as a house matron here at the children's village," Frau Tetzlaff says.

She is not the sort who views life through rose-tinted spectacles or is given to exaggerate the good points and conveniently forget the bad. Anyone who fancies her chances as a children's matron, she says, will need to be strictly down-to-earth. There is no such thing as a world in which children are invariably well-behaved.

Christiane Tetzlaff may not describe her work in glowing, glorious colour, but she is clearly keenly convinced that she is doing a good job.

Including her current four she has been and continues to be a mother to fourteen young people.

Frau Tetzlaff is a nurse by profession and started work at her first children's village in the Black Forest in 1960. She "mothered" nine children there before moving to Worpsswede twelve years ago.

Her ambition in life has been to help other people as directly as possible. She concedes that motherhood is more than a nine-to-five job but claims that she would not have it any other way.

It can be hard and unrelenting work, keeping her busy round the clock, and although she and her children live like a normal family, additional problems do arise.

Only one child in twenty is an orphan. Most come from broken homes and need to be rehabilitated with infinite patience and care. Children are sent here in the first place on the recommendation of the local authority.

Christiane Tetzlaff is firmly convinced that the educational principles of the children's village are sound but admits that there may be advantages to be derived from placing children with fos-

ter-parents. "It depends from one instance to another," she says.

Matrons at the various children's villages are certainly kept on their toes. They attend refresher courses and seminars whenever the opportunity arises in order to keep abreast of the latest developments in education theory and child care.

Whenever Frau Tetzlaff goes off on a weekend's course a standby is at the ready to look after her four children in House No. 6.

The toughest problem you face in her line of work, she reckons, is that of retaining a personality of your own and not allowing yourself to be snowed under by the avalanche of work and the multitude of problems encountered by the children.

"It is far easier to intervene when you retain your own individuality and remain in a position to articulate wishes and demands of your own," Frau Tetzlaff adds. But she sounds a little doubtful, as though life in practice is slightly more demanding.

Whenever possible she tries to keep the "family" together. They either all play games around the family table, or stories are read and other ways and means sought of resisting the temptation to switch on the TV set.

Outdoor activities are also provided. The village itself has two ponies and a redskin encampment. Matron Tetzlaff likes to see her children make friends with children from outside the village.

This makes obvious sense: the more children they know outside their im-



Matron Christiane Tetzlaff with her children

(Photos: SOS-Kinderkid)

mediate circle, the less the SOS children will find that life centres around their own community.

Therapy and social work are both writ large at the children's village. Berthold Dunkel, a young psychologist, not only provides individual and group therapy for the children; he also holds regular meetings of matrons to review problems and prospects. No one is left to his or her own devices.

Berthold Dunkel outlines the many ways there are of establishing a relationship with youngsters - by means of educational leisure activities such as sailing, metal- and woodwork and other hobbies, for instance. They all combine both instruction and therapy, not to mention keeping the children busy.

Psychologist Dunkel has nothing but the highest praise for the tireless matrons. He knows only too well how many enthusiastic volunteers turn up

and how many fail to make the grade in a punishing training course.

Within the conventional confines of aid to young people the SOS children's villages stand out as an uncommon, effective organisation. They rescue children from the isolation of life in a children's home and provide them with security and stability at a time when the number of children in local authorities' care is on the increase and the number of foster-parents on the decline.

Rehabilitation of a child deprived of family is a complicated and educationally demanding process. Staff at the 59 children's villages are both responsive and experienced.

What is more, they are not dogmatic and would be the first to agree that this organisation is only one of a number of ways of helping parentless children. No way does not preclude the other - foster-parents, for instance.

(Dremer Nachrichten, 26 March 1977)

'Refuge' idea was launched 25 years ago

one of the most rewarding jobs there can possibly be.

Käthe Greinwald is one of the women who run the Kinderdorf. She used to be a maid but, on reaching the conclusion, at the age of thirty-five, that she was not going to get married, she applied for a job as children's village matron.

That was seven years ago and she has never regretted the decision for a moment. She is as fond of her six children as if they were her own and they call her "Mummy" so naturally that there cannot be any doubt whatever that Käthe Greinwald and her children really are a family.

The children themselves grow up feeling very much brother and sister, as experience over the past twenty years has proven.

Frau Greinwald's neighbours are all Kinderdorf matrons of long standing who have brought up between fifteen and twenty boys and girls over the years. "Grown-up" children regularly revisit the village and their own new brothers and sisters.

Some are now married with children of their own. Entire families revisit the village and pay their respects to a Kinderdorf matron who is now a "grand-mother."

It is not difficult to divine what has made Hermann Gmeiner's idea such success. His children's villages imbue the children with a feeling of not being alone in the world. Kinderdorf kids have a home of their own where they are always welcome.

Not even the best-run conventional children's home is in a position to provide such a sense of security which protects children from broken homes so badly need to gain the self-confidence that ought to be a child's birthright.

Specialists have since confirmed what Hermann Gmeiner sensed intuitively a quarter of a century ago. Children, especially small children, need a special relationship with an adult if they are to come into their own.

They also need experience of everyday life. At the children's village meals are not served in a canteen and clothes are not handled by a laundry. Mothers cook for her own "children" and have to go shopping and make do with her own money like any other housewife and mother.

SOS children do not attend an institutional school either; they go to the local primary or secondary school. Children must be given every encouragement to develop whatever talents they can call their own, Kinderdorf specialists maintain.

The SOS children's villages have an example that is gaining increasing currency all over the world.

(Kielor Nachrichten, 19 March 1977)

SPORT

Football's Grand Old Man Sepp Herberger turns 80

Sepp Herberger, probably this country's most popular sporting figure, turned eighty on 28 March. Herberger captained and coached the national soccer team for 28 years. He has been the subject of reams of commentary in his time and congratulations have poured in to mark his eightieth birthday. Virtually everyone in Germany remembers Sepp Herberger as the coach who guided his squad to World Cup honours at Bern, Switzerland, in 1954, as a soccer genius, an unwavering mastermind and friend and a past master at simple but effective football training.

again Sepp Herberger was reckoned to have a psychological knack. His squad admitted without hesitation that he was an unparalleled leader of men, as he so often proved in man-to-man pep talks.

Players capped during Herberger's tenure unquestioningly accepted every word he said, no matter how trivial it seemed. And Sepp's basic tenets sound simple enough: "The ball is round," "each game lasts ninety minutes," "the next opponent is always the toughest" and "after the game means before the game."

Simple and straightforward was the way Herberger liked to appear, and only Eva, the woman who has been his wife for the past 55 years, felt able to smile now and again, but only from the distance, as it were, because she never attained a single international game.

"A bank director doesn't take his wife to work with him either," Sepp explained. So home life seemed to be run along traditional, patriarchal lines too. In sport Herberger was certainly always a stickler for discipline.

He came top of his degree class in 1930 at Berlin Academy of Physical Education and invariably expected both players and the many coaches he trained to be orderly and disciplined.

He always demanded the utmost both from himself and from others, but he also always seemed to have a sixth sense for what was feasible.

His teams had come first, fourth and fifth respectively in the World Cup tournaments in Switzerland in 1954, Sweden in 1958 and Chile in 1962.

When success or failure were at stake the Boss as he was known, was not a man to compromise, still less to succumb to sentiment. In Chile he replaced goalie Hans Tilkowski by his understudy Wolfgang Fahrian in mid-tournament without so much as a by-your-leave.

Eight years previously, in Switzerland, Berni Klodt likewise learnt to his cost that Herberger was no respecter of persons where the team was concerned.

After two great games against Turkey, won 4-1 and 7-2 respectively, Klodt, who played outside-right for Schalke, had to step down for Helmut Rahn. Rahn, Herberger was convinced, would prove even more devastating.

In the event he was proved right. Rahn scored the crucial goals. Once

But in the 1938 World Cup tournament in France he was overruled. Herberger wanted to enter virtually the complete Breslau eleven - the first team with which he made his name.

The Reichssportführer had other ideas, however. He wanted to see a Greater German team selected, so Herberger was obliged to combine the German and Austrian teams. The result was elimination in the first round of the competition.

When the war was over Sepp Herberger was appointed Federal chief coach with full powers. He was back in office as an absolute monarch.

Yet matters were somehow different after the World Cup win in Bern. Coach Sepp Herberger, captain Fritz Walter and the team were bowled over by a wave of sympathy.

After nine bitter post-war years the 3-2 defeat of Hungary in Bern was more than a mere victory on the field of play. Any number of people expressed their gratitude for what was hailed as the Spirit of Spiez, where the squad had held a pre-tournament training camp. Team spirit and comradeship still counted for something, an entire country seemed to conclude.

This is perhaps why World Cup victory in 1954 counted for so much more than the Munich win twenty years later. "The first World Cup was a sensation, especially as we had been banned from international soccer for eight long years," Sepp Herberger recalls. "The second win," he adds, "was nearly according to schedule."

As a first-rate midfield player with Waldhof, Mannheim and Tennis Borussia Berlin Herberger himself was capped three times, against Finland, Italy and Holland. He once clashed with the expenses code and was banned temporarily, but is neither money-hungry nor resentful of others' earnings.

In 1954 players were paid a 300 deutschmark allowance; in 1974 they received a 70,000-deutschmarks bonus. Times change, he says with a shrug, but will not accept this as an excuse for just any behaviour.

"Under my aegis there would have been no pre-tournament bargaining for higher bonuses!" Herberger declares. Horst Eckel, one of the Bern team, is convinced that "Sepp Herberger would be a great trainer even in this day and age."

Who can tell? Conjecture is mere theory, and Sepp Herberger is a man with a practical bent. He certainly does not need to argue the toss. He could hardly be more popular than he is already.



Sepp Herberger (Photo: Wilfried Wiltors)

(Münchener Merkur, 26 March 1977)

Grand Prix drivers ban Nürburgring circuit

This year's Formula One Federal Republic Grand Prix will be held not at Nürburgring, but at Hockenheim, between Mannheim and Heidelberg. Former world champion racing driver Niki Lauda of Austria, who was marked for life at last year's Grand Prix, inspected the 22.835-kilometre Nürburgring track in conjunction with fellow-driver John Watson and concluded that the eighteen-point safety requirements laid down by the Grand Prix Drivers Association had only been met in three instances. On behalf of his fellow-drivers he announced that the Nürburgring circuit was out of the running as far as they were concerned, this season.

Mountains will literally need moving if the Nürburgring Grand Prix circuit is to survive after the verdict given by ex-world champion Niki Lauda of Austria on behalf of his fellow Grand Prix drivers.

The fifty-year-old Nürburgring course, dubbed the most beautiful in the world, badly needs a thoroughgoing road safety facelift that will cost roughly forty million deutschmarks.

"Unless politicians in Bonn and Mainz take swift action, the Nürburgring circuit will from part and parcel of racing history in a very few years' time," a spokesman for Automobilclub von Deutschland commented in Frankfurt.

"Before long the Nürburgring will only be suitable for minor national events or cycle races."

Vermination by politicians is seen as the main reason why this state of affairs has come about in the first place. "Blame must be laid in equal measure at the doors of the Rhineland-Palatinate state government in Mainz and of the Federal government in Bonn, which has yet to say a good word about motor racing even though this country is the foremost car-owning nation in Europe."

Should politicians decide against improvements to the Nürburgring, this country will be left with only one Grand Prix circuit, Hockenheim, whereas neighbouring France still boasts eight.

Even Hockenheim has its shortcomings. It was only given a provisional go-ahead as a Formula One venue this season because crash barriers still need conversion.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 March 1977)

Deutsche Welle - worldwide

93 programmes in 34 languages -

topical, to the point and objective.

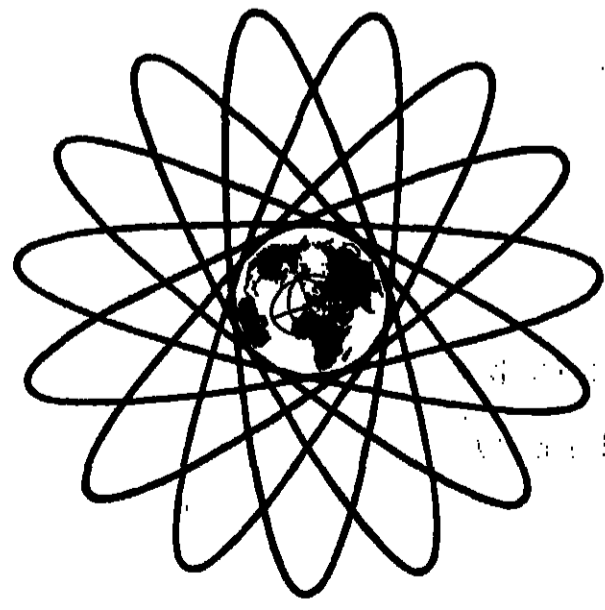
News, views and reports from the world of politics, economics, culture, science and sports. Information, music and entertainment.

The shortwave service of the Federal Republic of Germany provides you with a balanced picture of life in Germany.

Programme transcripts available in several languages.

Programme schedules free of charge, on application to:

Deutsche Welle Postbox 100 444 • 5 Cologne 1 Federal Republic of Germany



Handwritten Arabic text in a vertical column on the left margin.